

Sinclair
Broadcasting's
decision to force
their stations to
air an anti-Kerry
documentary days
before the election
is clearly at odds
with any notion of
fair use of the
public airwaves.
This amounts to a
donation in-kind to
the Bush campaign.

No mandate to air
"Fahrenheit 9/11"
immediately after
the Kerry
"documentary" went
out to Sinclair
affiliated stations.
In the absence of
some kind of
equal-time
accommodation of the
Kerry campaign,
Sinclair should be
restrained from
forcing affiliates
to run the Kerry
program.

Sinclair uses the
public airwaves free
of charge, and is
obligated by law to
serve the public
interest. Affiliate
stations should be
allowed to choose
the election
coverage that they
believe best serves
the interests of
their local market,
rather than what the
parent company feels
is best for the
shareholders.

Sinclair's actions
show why we need to
strengthen media
ownership rules, not
weaken them. They
show why the license
renewal process
needs to involve
more than a returned
postcard. Thank you.